

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 724

By Berke

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Rebecca Holden upon receiving the 2009 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as educators of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Rebecca Holden, first grade mathematics teacher at Battle Academy for Teaching and Learning, who has been honored with the 2009 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching; and

WHEREAS, President Barack Obama announced the award, which is the nation's highest honor for teaching in these fields; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that Rebecca Holden should receive this award, as she possesses a talent for motivating her students to learn, and she is always eager to share this ability with other teachers. She is also well known for challenging herself to learn new ways to reach her students; and

WHEREAS, to be chosen for this honor, Mrs. Holden was recommended by a panel of leading mathematicians, scientists, and educators; she and the other recipients are considered to be highly qualified educators who raise the bar for math and science education for America's future innovators; and

WHEREAS, she has inspired the students at Battle Academy for the past seven years, and she has been molding young minds as a teacher for the past thirty years; and

WHEREAS, her passion for mathematics at the elementary level has made her a key member of the Hamilton County District's Instructional Leadership Team, and she has also dedicated her time and energies to serving on several state committees organized to revise

mathematics standards and presented at conferences of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics; and

WHEREAS, with an untiring dedication to the pursuit of excellence, Rebecca Holden has conducted numerous professional development sessions, has helped write curriculum alignment in mathematics, has selected textbooks, and has developed curriculum plans for each mathematics standard; and

WHEREAS, considered a natural instructional leader, Mrs. Holden was chosen to attend special training offered by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Holden earned a Bachelor of Science degree in early childhood and elementary education from Middle Tennessee State University and garnered her Master in Education degree and her Urban Specialist Certification from the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Holden is National Board Certified as a Early Childhood Generalist and is certified in kindergarten through eighth grade; and

WHEREAS, Rebecca Holden epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mrs. Holden or her dedication to the State of Tennessee and its students; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Rebecca Holden for her meritorious service to the students of the State of Tennessee, congratulate her upon her receipt of the 2009 Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.